

Recruiter, Mr. Small recruited for the Army National Guard. His hard work was recognized in 1981, when he was awarded as the Top Recruiter for the entire nation—having enlisted 139 soldiers in one fiscal year. This award is a testament to Mr. Small's impeccable work ethic.

Mr. Small's enthusiastic service to his country is demonstrated by his wide range of military work, including the California State Military Reserve. He served as Battalion Commander and Director of Recruiting State Wide and was assigned to the Commanding General's Staff as Staff Duty Officer. Mr. Small retired at the rank of Lt. Colonel. With forty years of military service, he serves as an example to all in his community.

Beyond the military, Mr. Small continues to exemplify true citizenship in his civilian life. He attended California State University, Fresno and West Coast Bible College. Mr. Small was a founding Pastor of Wahiwa Church of God in Oahu, Hawaii and a Pastor of Pinole Church of God in Pinole, California. He currently serves as Senior Care Pastor at Northwest Church in Fresno, California. He is a member of the American Legion, VFW, and current Commandant of the Marine Corps League.

Robert served as Staff Assistant and Military Liaison to Congressman George Radanovich, former Representative of the 19th District of California. In addition, he served on the Academy Selection Board for both Congressman Radanovich and me.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Robert W. Small for his outstanding service to his country and community. His expertise as a member of the United States Armed Services and life experiences have made his time on the Academy Selection Board invaluable. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

#### A TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN PAUL F. OREFFICE

#### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chairman Paul F. Orefice of The Dow Chemical Company for his distinguished life and career as he nears his 85th birthday. Mr. Orefice is a true American success story, having immigrated to the United States from Venice when he was 12 years old to later becoming the CEO of one of the world's largest and most recognized corporations.

Paul joined The Dow Chemical Company in 1953, after graduating from Purdue University and serving two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He maintained a variety of international assignments early in his career before being named President and Chief Executive Officer in 1978. His adept business skills while head of the company helped him become the first person to receive both the Palladium medal and the Chemical Industry medal in the late 1980s. He was named Chairman of the Board in 1986, and served in that position until his retirement in 1992. Throughout his tenure, The Dow Chemical Company remained one of the largest and most well-respected manufacturing companies in the world.

It is because of the determination and success of individuals like Paul that America remains the land of opportunity for folks wishing to achieve great things through hard work and ingenuity. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Paul for his remarkable life and career.

#### CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE— EVELYN STRODER

#### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and attended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO COLONEL THEODORE C. "TC" WILLIAMS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

#### HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Army, Colonel Theodore C. "TC" Williams. Throughout his 27 years of distinguished service, COL Williams has personified the Army values of duty, integrity and selfless service across the many missions that the Army provides in defense of our Nation. As the Chief of Programs Division in the Office of the Secretary of the Army, many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with COL Williams on a wide variety of Army issues and programs. It's my privilege to recognize COL Williams and his many accomplishments.

COL Williams, the son of the late Theodore C. Williams, Jr and Phyllis Kane Williams of Potomac, Maryland, attended Winston Church Hill Senior High School in Potomac, Maryland, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry in 1985 after graduating from The Citadel in South Carolina.

He served from 1986 to 1989 as a rifle platoon leader, company executive officer, and reconnaissance platoon leader in 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. From 1990 to 1993, he served as the battalion assistant operations officer then commander of Bravo Company in 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Cotton-Bailers during the Persian Gulf War and at Fort Stewart, Georgia. From 1993 to 1994, COL Williams served as a Senior Infantry Trainer in the 24th Infantry Division Resident Training Detachment assisting the 48th Brigade, Georgia National Guard. From 1995 to 1998, COL Williams was a small group instructor for the Infantry Officers Advanced Course and tactics team chief in the Tactics Department of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. From 1999 to 2001, he served as operations officer and then executive officer in 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry "Tomahawks" at Fort Lewis, Washington.

From 2001 to 2003, COL Williams was an Army Congressional liaison in the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison where he was principally responsible for overseeing the efficient operation of the division and managing the Army's legislative portfolio on the Chem-Bio Defense program.

In 2003, LTC Williams left OCLL to take command of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry "Gators" during Operation Iraqi Freedom and at Smith Barracks in Germany from June 2003 to June 2005. For twelve months, Force Gator conducted combat and stability operations in southeast Baghdad. In April 2004, while conducting transfer of authority to the follow-on unit, the tactical situation in Iraq deteriorated and the battalion task force was alerted to conduct combat operations in Najaf and Al Kut. Following decisive combat operations in south-central Iraq, the task force was extended in Iraq for three months to conduct combat and stability operations in the infamous "Triangle of Death." For operations conducted April to July 2004, the battalion received the Presidential Unit Citation as part of

the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Upon redeploying to Germany after fifteen months in Iraq, the battalion conducted reset and full-spectrum operations training in preparation to deploy again in late 2005.

From 2005 to 2007, LTC Williams returned to the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison to serve as the Legislative Assistant to the Vice Chief of Staff, Army (VCSA). He stood out amongst his peers and made himself an indispensable part of the VCSA's personal staff.

From 2007 to 2009, he was promoted to Colonel and led the division within OCLL that develops the congressional engagement strategy for the Secretary, Chief of Staff, Under Secretary, Vice Chief of Staff, and Sergeant Major of the Army. He performed exceptionally. He personally improved the Army's strategic communication with the Congress, and developed the engagement strategy and legislative objectives for the Army's Senior Leadership.

From 2009 to 2012, COL Williams performed duties as the Chief of Programs. He expertly led the planning of the Army's congressional engagement strategies between senior Army Staff leaders and Members of Congress, leading directly to a defense authorization bill that enhanced the Army's ability to recruit, retain, and reset the world's premiere fighting force.

Through these varying assignments, COL Williams provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and Congress. On behalf of Congress, I thank COL Williams, his wife Helen, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout his honorable military career. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

IN HONOR OF MS. SYLVIA  
RUCINSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH  
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Sylvia Rucinski who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Sylvia attended Miles Elementary School and graduated from Holy Name High School. She later attended Cuyahoga Community College and John Carroll University. Before beginning her 22 year career at the Alliance of Poles of America, Sylvia held a number of different positions. She previously held jobs with Harris Seybold, Grabler Manufacturing and several school and public libraries.

Sylvia has been a long-time and active member of the Polish-American community. She has been the director for the Alliance of Poles Federal Credit Union and Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress. She also served as the recording secretary of Circle 9 of the Alliance of Poles. Because of her unwavering service, Sylvia has been acknowledged by the Alliance of Poles as the recipient of the 2004 Meritorious Service Medal and Award and named the 2003 Grand Lady of Pulaski by the Polonia Foundation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Sylvia Rucinski and congratulating her as she is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

HONORING MR. OLIVER SIEBERT  
OF CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Oliver Siebert of Chesterfield, Missouri. The French government recently awarded Mr. Siebert the Legion of Honor for his part in the liberation of Strasbourg, France. The medal and the accompanying title of Knight of the Legion of Honor is the highest military award given by the French government.

Mr. Siebert, just twenty years old, was an acting second lieutenant leading the 324th infantry battalion and the 220th field artillery in November 1944. American forces, operating jointly with elements of the French Second Armored Division under the command of Captain Jean Penet, fought across the Vosges Mountains in the French Alps throughout October and November 1944. On 23 November 1944 elements of the French Army entered Strasbourg and liberated the city.

Mr. Siebert's service did not end with the liberation of Strasbourg. While conducting operations in support of the assault of Hangviller on 27 November 1944, Mr. Siebert and a small group of American soldiers were captured by German SS soldiers disguised as U.S. troops. Three days later, after overpowering two SS officers and commandeering their car, he was able to escape and return to his duties as an artillery forward observer.

On Christmas Day 1944 a German shell landed not far from his forward observation post and caused severe damage to his right leg. German strafing of the ambulance that evacuated him that night caused further damage that would require extensive surgery and lengthy convalescence to repair. After treatment at several American military hospitals, Mr. Siebert was honorably discharged on 18 August 1945.

Mr. Siebert returned to St. Louis, earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Washington University and in 1948 married Virginia Turner, his wife now for more than 63 years.

I am truly honored to have the opportunity to share this heroic story. This son of a truck driver for Anheuser-Busch, despite initially being rejected for military service because he was "clinically blind", did not give up his quest to do his part to defeat Nazi Germany. And now, almost seventy years later, I join the French government in honoring his sacrifice and service to the French people and these United States.

Mr. Siebert, thank you. And may God Bless you and your family.

CONGRATULATING MR. DEREK  
CAVILLA FOR COMPLETING THE  
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S  
SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Derek Cavilla of Orlando, Florida, a teacher at Workforce Advantage Academy, upon his completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. During the National Gallery's six-day seminar, Mr. Cavilla intensively studied the foundation of twentieth-century art by examining the pioneering artists of French impressionism and post-impressionism.

In order for participants to be accepted in to the Gallery's Teacher Institute seminar, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Mr. Cavilla was one of only forty-five teachers from across the nation chosen to participate in this year's National Gallery of Art's Teacher Institute. From this seminar, teachers are able to return to their schools and students with new tools and ideas that will enhance education curriculum of all grade levels and subjects. The students of Central Florida are blessed to have such a dedicated educator as Mr. Cavilla.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Mr. Derek Cavilla on his acceptance to and successful completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. May his dedication to our nation's educational institutions and students inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

FIRST ANNUAL AMERICA'S  
FAMILY DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 20, 2012*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on October 6, there will be an event taking place in Santa Monica, CA that I would like to highlight. This event will be the First Annual America's Family Day. The purpose of this event will be to celebrate families and to stress the importance of protecting and investing in our children.

On March 7, 2012, the Bi-Partisan Privacy Caucus, in which I serve as the co-Chairman, held a briefing to directly highlight H.R. 1895, the Do Not Track Kids Act of 2011. On our panel, we were joined by Nick Cannon, Spokesperson for Safe Communications, who shared the same passion of ensuring that our children are protected across all platforms. He graciously publicly endorsed H.R. 1895 and has decided to champion the cause by holding the very first America's Family Day.

I believe that Republicans and Democrats alike can agree that family is a sacred institution that deserves our time, energy, and devotion. I am blessed to have a loving wife, four wonderful children, two stepchildren, and five grandchildren. I want nothing more than to do my part to make sure they are secure, safe, and well protected. In this sentiment, I am